

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

March 31st, 2019

Beloved, "...the very GOD of peace sanctify you WHOLLY; and I pray GOD your WHOLE *spirit* and *soul* and *body* be *preserved blameless* unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST"

(1 THESSALONIANS 5:23)



New on our bookshelf... Author Unknown

God's Sovereign, Electing Grace

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**Sunday mornings beginning at 10 am,
and Wednesday evenings at 7 pm**

Services in Spanish Sunday evenings at 6 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Virgil Gibbs - April 4th

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR TODD NIBERT

LUKE 4:16-21 — Two Things I Know

Recorded on Friday evening, February 22nd, 2019

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



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WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT?

"WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT?"

AND TO WHOM IS THE ARM OF THE LORD REVEALED?"

(ISAIAH 53:1)

What a question! (ISAIAH 53:1) Well, who are they that believe the report that Christ has accomplished the salvation of His people, the report that declares His victory by the flesh of His arm, that He came into the world to save sinners?

Who are they that believe the message of the prophet that declares the gospel news that *"He will save us"* (ISAIAH 25:9)? His people believe that message, the gospel report of the LORD. Beloved, *"He shall save His people from their sins"* (MATTHEW 1:21). They are those who love the truth. Those who watch for and will love His appearing. Those who love the truth as it is in Him, the Lord Jesus Christ. Those who love, not merely a theology of truth but beloved, a people who love Christ Himself; the One who has been, sovereignly and lovingly revealed to them and ever so blessedly *in* them. Beloved, Christ Jesus our Lord, is our only hope of glory.

What good news does this report contain? The good news of Salvation accomplished by the LORD'S arm. The Gospel declares that through the doing and the dying of the Lord Jesus Christ we have been and shall be saved. Beloved, we are and have been saved by the strong arm of the LORD! So perfect, so complete is our Lord's work of salvation, He declares that He has *finished* it;

we are made complete through it beloved, we are *“complete in Him”* (JOHN 19:30, COLOSSIANS 2:10).

Now, although we don’t see our being complete in Him with the eye of the flesh as long as we are in this body of death, but believe it beloved, in that day, we shall see our present hidden gospel reality in Christ—that we shall be found presented in Him, holy and *unblameable* and *unreproveable*, in His sight; indeed faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. And why is that beloved? Because as He is right now at the right hand of the Father, so are we in this world (COLOSSIANS 1:22, 1 JOHN 4:17). *“He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love...”* (EPHESIANS 1:4).

Beloved we are complete in Christ. All those who believe on Him are not condemned but redeemed! *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!”* (ROMANS 8:1).

Sadly, this good news, this good report of Christ’s victory is so often despised and trampled under foot, and treated with contempt (HEBREWS 10:29) that the question is asked, *Who hath believed our report?*

Well who has believed the gospel? Those whom our Lord refers to when He declares *“He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”* (LUKE 8:8). Beloved, by God’s undeserved grace we have been made to hear, receive, and believe the Gospel report of Christ Jesus the Lord, that by Him God hath saved us! (2 TIMOTHY 1:8-9)

Who hath believed our report? Beloved, our Lord answers us plainly—those that hear His voice. He declares *“My sheep hear my voice,”* in the declaration of the Gospel His sheep are made to hear His voice, they are made to know that it is by His strong arm that they are saved. They hear and are made to know that He is the author and finisher of [their] faith. Beloved, He is the author of all our salvation. (HEBREWS 12:2).

PASTOR

“I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one” (JOHN 10:28-30)

THE DELIGHT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*"THE STEPS OF A GOOD MAN ARE ORDERED BY THE LORD: AND HE
DELIGHTETH IN HIS WAY"*

(PSALM 37:23)

What is the delight of God's people? It is Christ! It is His blessed person *"He who has seen me has seen the Father"* (JOHN 14:9), He is the Word made flesh.

Reader, if you believe Him, you have been made to see Him by God's unspeakable gift. *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God"* (EPHESIANS 2:8).

What is the delight of God's people? It is Christ Himself! Beloved, our salvation is by His finished work, He said *"It is finished"* (JOHN 19:30). Beloved, everything I need, everything you need to be reconciled to God, He accomplished. By the sinless life He lived out on our behalf as a man, He established our righteousness on the earth, and He gave His righteous life as a blood atoning ransom to put away all our sins by the sacrifice of Himself.

I cry out to God's Jerusalem, beloved, the warfare of your salvation is accomplished, your iniquity is pardoned: you have received of the LORD'S hand double for all your sins! (ISAIAH 40:1-2).

My friend, if you are born from above, you'll take no delight in yourself, rather, all your delight will be found in Christ's blessed person and His glorious finished saving work, indeed all your delight will be found in Him and Him alone.

Beloved when we...

*"...survey the wondrous cross where
the young Prince of Glory died,
[your] and my richest gain
[we] will count but loss,
and pour contempt on all our pride."*

Our delight beloved, is Christ and Him crucified! Where is our delight found? It is found in the Lord Jesus Christ; for in Him we find a full and complete pardon of all our sins, and His perfect righteousness is made to be ours. Beloved, we are complete in Him. AMEN! (COLOSSIANS 2:10).

PASTOR

Our Lord warned those who trusted in their own righteousness *"Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I AM he, ye shall die in your sins"* (JOHN 8:23-24)